

Appln. No. 09/445,223
Amdt. dated October 7, 2003
Reply to Office action of May 7, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-4 (Cancelled)

5 (Previously Presented). A vector comprising a DNA sequence according to claim 44.

6 (Original). A vector according to claim 5 capable of being expressed in a eukaryotic host cell

7 (Original). A vector according to claim 5 capable of being expressed in a prokaryotic host cell.

8 (Original). Transformed eukaryotic or prokaryotic host cells containing a vector according to claim 5.

9-10 (Canceled)

11 (Previously Presented). A method for producing a polypeptide which potentiates cell death, which comprises growing a transformed host cell according to claim 8 under conditions suitable for the expression of an expression product, effecting post-translational modification of said expression product, as necessary, for obtaining said polypeptide, and isolating said expressed polypeptide.

12-21 (Canceled).

22 (Withdrawn). A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and at least one polypeptide according to claim 40.

23 (Previously Presented). A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and a recombinant animal virus vector comprising a DNA sequence according to claim 44.

24 (Previously Presented). A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and an oligonucleotide molecule consisting of an antisense sequence of at least part of an mRNA sequence corresponding to a DNA sequence according to claim 44.

25-28 (Canceled).

29 (Withdrawn). A method of modulating apoptotic processes or programmed cell death processes (cell death pathways) in which the B1 protein of SEQ ID NO:1 is involved, comprising treating said cells with one or more polypeptide according to claim 40, wherein said treating of said cells comprises introducing into said cells said one or more polypeptide in a form suitable for intracellular introduction thereof, or introducing into said cells a DNA sequence encoding said one or more polypeptide in the form of a suitable vector carrying said sequence, said vector being

capable of effecting the ingestion of said sequence into said cells in a way that said sequence is expressed in said cells.

30 (Withdrawn). A method of modulating cell survival processes in which the B1 protein of SEQ ID NO:1 is involved and which include the modulation of cell survival, comprising treating said cells with one or more polypeptides according to claim 40, wherein said treating of cells comprises introducing into said cells said one or more polypeptide in a form suitable for intracellular introduction thereof, or introducing into said cells a DNA sequence encoding said one or more polypeptide in the form of a suitable vector carrying said sequence, said vector being capable of effecting the insertion of said sequence into said cells in a way that said sequence is expressed in said cells.

31-39 (Canceled).

40 (Withdrawn/Presently Amended). An isolated polypeptide which potentiates cell death, said polypeptide consisting of: ~~an amino acid sequence encoded by a DNA sequence in accordance with claim 44, or a derivative thereof.~~

- (a) a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:1;
- (b) a sequence comprising an analog of (a) having no more than ten changes in the amino acid sequence of (a), each said change being a substitution, deletion or insertion

of a single amino acid, which analog potentiates cell death;

or

(c) a fragment of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,
which fragment potentiates cell death.

41 (Withdrawn). A polypeptide in accordance with claim 40, consisting of a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO.1.

42 (Withdrawn). A polypeptide in accordance with claim 40, consisting of a sequence comprising an analog of SEQ ID NO:1, having no more than ten changes in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, each said change being a substitution, deletion or insertion of a single amino acid, which analog potentiates cell death.

43 (Withdrawn). A polypeptide in accordance with claim 40 consisting of a fragment of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, which fragment potentiates cell death.

44 (Previously Presented). An isolated DNA sequence encoding a polypeptide which potentiates cell death, said polypeptide consisting of:

(a) a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:1;
(b) a sequence comprising an analog of (a) having no more than ten changes in the amino acid sequence of (a), each said change being a substitution, deletion or insertion of a single amino acid, which analog potentiates cell death;
or

(c) a fragment of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1,
which fragment potentiates cell death.

45 (Previously Presented). A DNA sequence in
accordance with claim 44 encoding a polypeptide of a sequence
comprising SEQ ID NO:1.

46 (Previously Presented). A DNA sequence in
accordance with claim 44, encoding a polypeptide consisting of
the sequence of (b).

47 (Previously Presented). A DNA sequence in
accordance with claim 44, encoding a polypeptide consisting of
the sequence of (c).

48 (Previously Presented). A DNA sequence in
accordance with claim 44, consisting essentially of SEQ ID
NO:2 or a portion thereof encoding a polypeptide which
potentiates cell death.

49-50 (Canceled).

51 (Currently Amended). An oligonucleotide molecule
consisting of an antisense sequence of at least a part of an
mRNA sequence corresponding to a DNA sequence according to
claim 44.

52 (Previously Presented). A composition in
accordance with claim 24, wherein said mRNA sequence encodes a
polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1.

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53 (Previously Presented). An oligonucleotide sequence in accordance with claim 51, wherein said mRNA sequence encodes a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1.

54 (New). An isolated DNA sequence in accordance with claim 49 wherein the entire DNA sequence is a coding sequence encoding said polypeptide.